

# **US History & Government**



## **World War I Classwork Packet**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Per. \_\_\_\_\_

## World War I Begins

Directions: Review the chart carefully. Then refer to it as you complete the sentences that follow. You will then learn the causes of World War I.

Rise of Intense Nationalism	Growth of Imperialism	Formation of Military Alliances	Increased Militarism	Igniting Incident
Ethnic groups banded together and became more nationalistic, each demanding its own independent nation. They wanted freedom and the right to self-determination, to set up their own freely elected government.	Many countries raced to get colonies. Great Britain and Germany had colonies in Africa and the Middle East. France and Germany were fighting over Morocco.	By 1914, two major alliances had formed. The <b>Triple Entente</b> , later called the Allies, included France, Great Britain and Russia. The <b>Triple Alliance</b> included Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. Later, Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey became known as the Central Powers.	Major powers in Europe were stockpiling military arms. Competition for trade led to a naval arms race, and nations hurried to add battleships to their fleets.	On June 28, 1914, a Serbian killed Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. When Russia came to the aid of Serbia, Austria-Hungary's ally, Germany, declared war on Russia and France. Great Britain then declared war on Germany.

- Three political situations that led to the beginning of World War I were \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The banding together of ethnic groups in a search for freedom resulted in an increasing feeling of \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was the effort by major European nations to gain colonies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ had conflicting interests in Morocco.
- Great Britain and Germany were competing to establish colonies in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The two major alliances of countries in place by 1914 were the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.
- France, Great Britain, and Russia formed the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey became known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
- An increase in \_\_\_\_\_ led to the addition of battleships to naval forces.
- The incident that actually sparked the beginning of the war was \_\_\_\_\_.

# Why did the United States Enter World War I?

Read the arguments below on why the United States entered World War I and answer the questions that follow.

## Historian A

British propaganda pushed the United States to enter into World War I. The British published stories in the United States about German barbarity (cruelty) in Belgium. These stories caused the American public and then American leaders to hate Germany. The prejudiced Americans, especially President Wilson, openly favored Britain. The President did not protest much about the British blockade, but he got very upset about the German submarine blockade. The Germans said that Wilson was being unfair and kept their submarine warfare going. As a result, the United States declared war.

## Historian B

The United States entered World War I mainly as a result of its own munitions trade with and loans to Britain and the other Allied countries. Before the United States made the loans, President Wilson had said, "loans by American bankers to any foreign nation which is at war, are inconsistent with the true spirit of neutrality." Thus, Wilson's own words show that the later United States loans were not neutral acts. Faced with American help for its enemies, Germany was forced to use submarines to stop it. It is important to realize that the submarine didn't drive the United States into the war. Rather, our loans and trade drove the Germans to use the submarine which forced us into the War.

## Historian C

Some people feel the United States entered World War I because of British propaganda or American loans and trade to Britain. These people are wrong. British propaganda didn't influence that many Americans, and certainly not President Wilson. For example, the President did protest against the British blockade, which showed that he wasn't blindly pro-British. And American loans and munitions trade could not have forced the United States to enter the war, since American business leaders had little influence with President Wilson or with Congress. The main reason for American entry into the war was the German submarine warfare. Americans could not tolerate this violation of the freedom of the seas, so the country declared war.

1. What is the main point each historian makes?

- A. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. In which argument is evidence presented? Historian \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluate it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Evaluate the reasoning used by Historian C.

4. What does your textbook emphasize as the main cause for American entry into World War I?

5. Which of the 3 views above do you feel is the strongest? Explain your choice.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Why did the United States Enter World War One?

Event	Description	American Reaction
Nations of Europe go to war	The outbreak of WWI in 1914 caused conflict within the US as Americans whose ethnic heritage was from Europe felt sympathy toward their “home” nations.	
Sinking of the Lusitania And Sussex	On May 2, 1915, German U-Boats sink a British passenger ship off the coast of Ireland. The ship was carrying 182 American passengers. American public opinion is inflamed and some people start calling for the US to enter the war against German piracy.	
US loans and investments in the Allies	By 1916, the US had been trading with all combatants in WWI. However, a British naval blockade has prevented the US from trading with Germany. Therefore, the US has conducted millions of dollars in trade and loans with Britain and France. If the Allies were to lose the war the US would suffer tremendous financial losses.	
The Zimmerman Telegram	In 1917, British intelligence turns over an intercepted telegram from the German foreign secretary to the Mexican government. The Germans offer Mexico a deal: if war breaks out between the US and Germany, that Germany will supply Mexico with money and weapons to attack the US, and regain the territories of New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona.	
The Russian Revolution	In March 1917, a revolution occurs in Russia. The monarch of Russia, Czar Nicholas II, is overthrown and replaced by a quasi-democratic government, which is then overthrown and replaced by Lenin and the Communist Party. The new government of Russia signs a peace treaty with Germany. This means that Germany is no longer fighting a war on two fronts.	

## WAR MOBILIZATION

### I. Enlistment

*Q. Do we still use enlistment tactics today similar to those used to support WW I?*

### II. Expansion of the Federal Gov't

*Q. What concerns do some people have today regarding the expansion of the federal gov't in dealing with the current recession?*

### III. Socio-Economic Opportunities

*Q. Do you think WW I improved the lives of these social groups or hurt them? Explain.*

#### A. Women

#### B. African-Americans

#### C. Immigrants

#### IV. Wartime Propaganda

#### V. Civil Liberties

A. Espionage

B. Sedition

C. Schenck v. U.S.

D. Red Scare

*Q. Should we be concerned that during war, we may see our civil liberties curtailed? WHY OR WHY NOT?*

## REVIEW OF SUPREME COURT DECISION – SCHENCK v. U.S

### Comprehension Questions

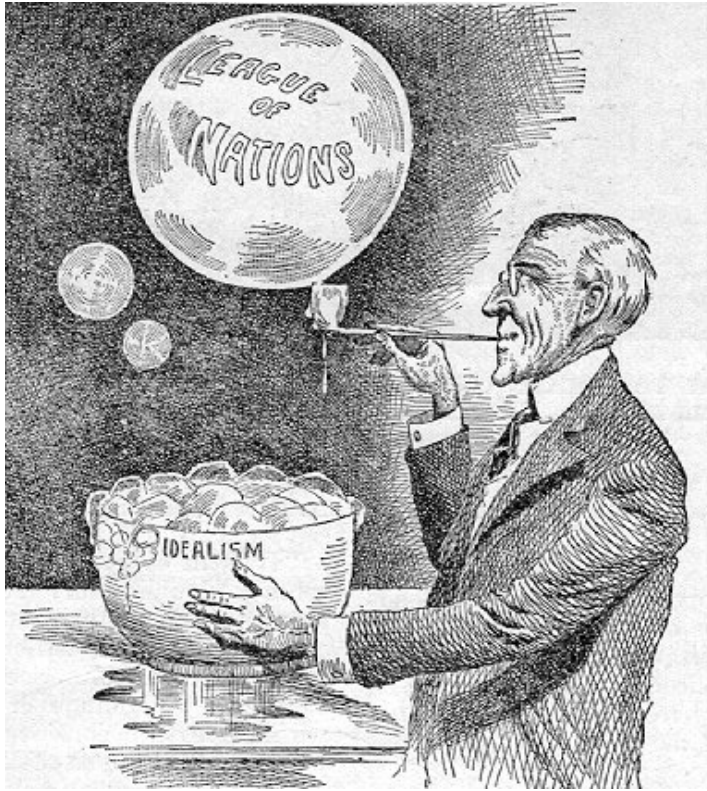
1. What were the Espionage and Conscription Acts?
  2. What was the Socialist Party pushing for?
  3. Why did the Socialist Party feel that the draft was in violation of the Bill of Rights?
  4. Who was the General Secretary of the Socialist Party?
  5. The government assumed that certain actions of Schenck were proof of his guilt under various “sedition” laws. What actions, according to the government, were proof of Schenck’s guilt?
  6. What argument did the defense present?
- 

### THE DECISION

1. Did the Supreme Court rule in favor of Schenck or the U.S. Government?
2. Why did the Supreme Court state that Schenck’s First Amendment rights (freedom of speech) did not deserve protection at that time?
3. Oliver Wendell Holmes stated that an individual’s right could be taken away if those rights presented a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to society.
4. Do you agree with this idea – that there is a limit to personal freedoms and that they should be revoked if they present a danger to society?

# Cartoon Analysis

## Cartoon One: Pipe Dreams



1. Identify the people and objects in the cartoon.

2. What words do you see in the cartoon? What does the word “idealism” mean?

3. What symbolism, if any, do you see in the cartoon?

4. What do you think is the message of the cartoon?

5. What do you think is the cartoonist’s point of view?

## Cartoon Two: Muzzled Dog

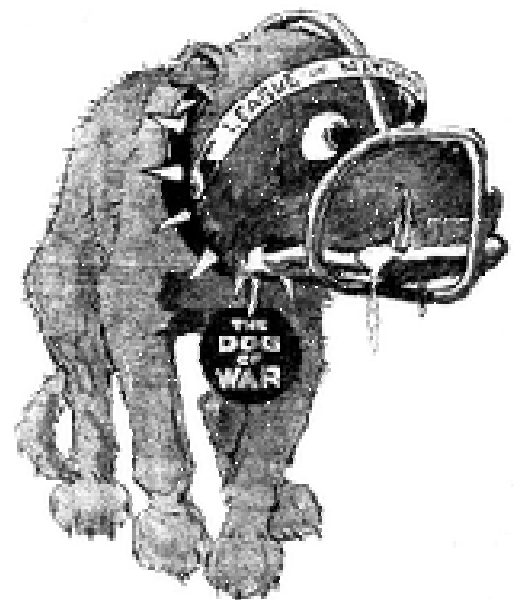
1. Identify the objects in the cartoon.

2. What are the objects representing in the cartoon?

3. What words do you see in the cartoon?

4. What do you think the cartoon’s message is?

5. What do you think is the point of view of the cartoonist?





### Cartoon Three: Rear View



REAR VIEW.  
—Orr in the Chicago Tribune.

1. Who are the people in the cartoon?

2. What objects can you identify in the cartoon?

3. What action is taking place in the cartoon?

4. What is different about the “singers?”

5. What is the cartoonist’s message?

6. What is the cartoonist’s point of view?

### Cartoon Four: Going to Talk to the Boss

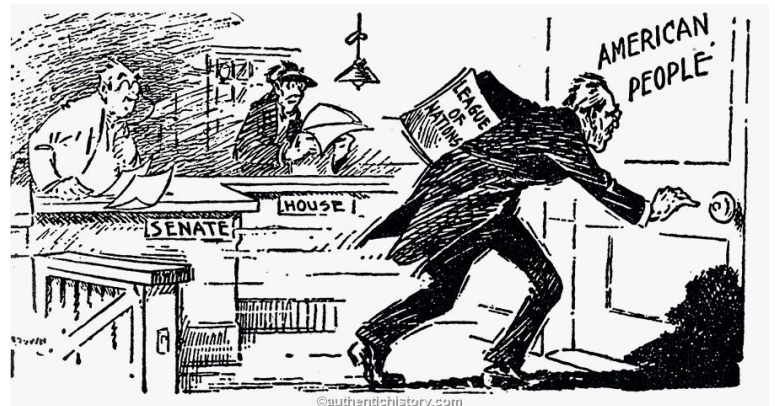
1. Who are the people in the cartoon?

2. What or who else is represented in the cartoon?

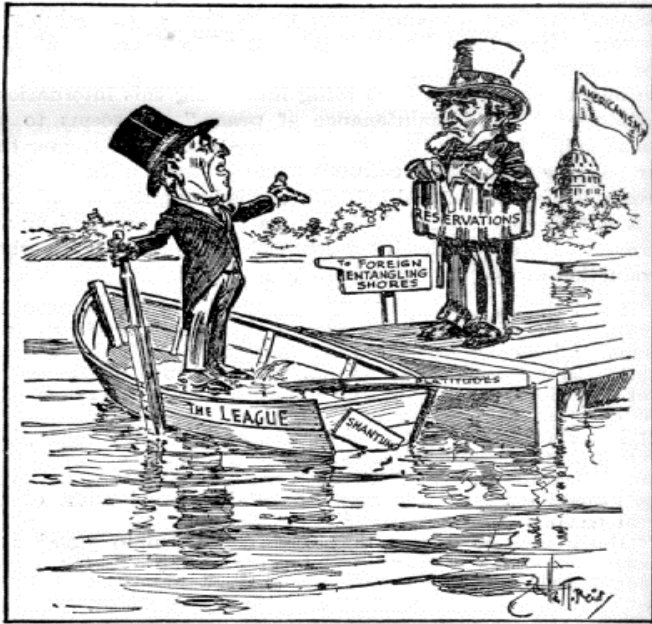
3. What action is taking place in the cartoon?

4. What is the cartoonist’s message?

5. What is the cartoonist’s point of view?



## Cartoon Five: Boat



YOU CAN'T REALLY BLAME HIM FOR WANTING A LIFE-PRESERVER.  
—Paid in The National Republican

1. Who are the people/objects in the cartoon?
2. What action is taking place in the cartoon?
3. What symbols do you see in the cartoon?
4. What is the cartoonist's message?
5. What is the cartoonist's point of view?

## Cartoon Six: Interrupting the Ceremony

1. Who are the people/objects in the cartoon?
2. What action is taking place in the cartoon?
3. Why does the cartoon use a wedding as a symbol?
4. What is the message of the cartoon?
5. What is the cartoonist's point of view?



## Cartoon Seven: A Gap in the Bridge



1. Who are the people/objects in the cartoon?

2. Why is Uncle Sam portrayed as such?

3. What words are written on the bridge?

4. What does the sign mean?

5. What is the message of the cartoon?

6. What is the cartoonist's point of view?

## Warring to Roaring – WWI Video Guide

1. What economic issues does the US have in 1914?
2. How does Germany avoid France's heavy defenses?
3. Why does Wilson urge Americans to remain calm?
4. Why are Americans afraid of German advances?
5. What is the purpose of the British naval blockade?
6. How does the war affect the American economy?
7. What is the only way for the US to avoid war?
8. How is the war financed?
9. What does Wilson fear will happen if the US doesn't join the League of Nations?
10. Are Wilson's fears realized?

## To What Extent did World War I Change America for the Better?

To What Extent did WW I change America for the Better?

**Background:** The American experience in WW I can be considered a watershed event. The United States prior to WW I was a different place in comparison to America after the war. But did this watershed event change America for the better or worse?

### **Instruction:**

1. Read each passage concerning the effects of WW I on America.
2. Answer the questions that correspond with each passage.
3. Evaluate how each effect impacted America on a scale of 0 – 10 with “0” being not at all and “10” being completely. You must support your number with a 2-sentence minimum explanation, citing facts that support your opinion.
4. When you have completed all 5 effects, evaluate the **overall** extent to which WW I changed America.

### Effect # 1 World Power

1. What role did W. Wilson play in the rise of America as a world power?
2. What aspect of the 14 Points was included in the Treaty of Versailles?
3. Why did many American legislators oppose the Treaty of Versailles?
4. On a scale of 1-10, evaluate how WWI impacted America as a world power. You must support your number with a 2-sentence minimum explanation citing facts that support your assessment.

### Effect 2: Social Mobility for Minorities and Women

1. What two factors caused the employment of African Americans and women?

2. What term was given for the movement of 500,000 African-Americans north during World War I?
3. How do you think these economic opportunities would affect the attitude of women and African-Americans towards Civil Rights?
4. What is the meaning of W.E.B. Dubois' remark when he said, "*We returned from fighting. We return fighting.*"
5. On a scale of 1-10, evaluate how the end of the war impacted women and African-Americans. You must support your number with a two-sentence minimum explanation citing facts that support your opinion.

### Effect 3: Economics

1. What impact would the fact that the US was the world's largest creditor nation have on the U.S.? On the world?
2. How did the many returning soldiers impact the American economy?
3. What could the federal government have done to avoid this problem?
4. On a scale of 1-10, evaluate the extent that World War I affected the economic situation in the U.S. You must support your number with a two-sentence minimum explanation citing facts that support your opinion.

#### Effect 4: Progressive Reform

1. What areas of progressive reform were achieved during World War I/
2. What aspects of government regulation did progressives think went too far?
3. What aspects of American society did government regulation fail to address?
4. On a scale of 1-10, evaluate the extent to which progressive reforms after World War I improved America. You must support your number with a two-sentence minimum explanation citing facts that support your opinion.

#### Effect 5: Nationalism

1. How did the federal government encourage nationalism?
2. Why did the initial enthusiasm for the war fade by the end?
3. Why was the post-war generation aptly called the “Lost Generation?”
4. On a scale of 1-10, evaluate the extent to which World War I influenced nationalistic pride in America. You must support your number with a two-sentence minimum explanation citing facts that support your opinion.

#### Culminating Effect

In a paragraph of 3-5 sentences, evaluate the overall extent to which these five effects of World War I changed America for the better. Cite specific examples in your answer.

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